

223 Harpers Road
Woodend Vic 3442
24 August 2009

Mr Brian Whitefield
President
Macedon Ranges Residents' Association Inc.
PO Box 506
Woodend Victoria 3442

Dear Mr Whitefield

Thank you for your letter of 17 August 2009 responding to my telephone conversation with the Secretary of the MRRA. Your letter contains a number of inaccuracies which I would like to correct.

The purpose of my call was to ask for a process through which a resident of the Macedon Ranges, who did not know two members of the Association, would be able to join the Association.

I note but express my grave concern that the MRRA Committee considers that it is inappropriate that:

1. That a resident of the Macedon Ranges be given a list of committee members for the purpose of talking to them about becoming a member of the Macedon Ranges Residents Association
2. That a resident of the Macedon Ranges be provided with membership details to identify other members who may know them to identify a proposer and a seconder
3. The MRRA include a notice to members in its Newsletter seeking a proposer for a membership application
4. The MRRA arrange for a person wishing to make an application for membership to meet its members.

I have never stated that the MRRA has 3 members what I said to your Secretary was that I was aware of the 3 publicly identified members of your Association; yourself, Christine Pruneau and Neil Manning and would like to be able to talk with others. These are very reasonable requests of a public lobby group within our community.

My concern about the lack of transparency in the manner the MRRA conducted its rating of Local Council candidates is the same concern I have for your membership application process. The MRRA purports to represent the residents of the Macedon Ranges and as I strongly support the objects described in your articles of association the association should encourage such people as me to join.

There are a number of critical issues before our community and the potential role for the MRRA is an extremely important one. I would like to ask that you reconsider your approach and organize for your committee to meet with me to discuss and resolve this situation.

Yours sincerely

Russell Yardley
Resident of the Macedon Ranges

